

# The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXIV,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1916.

No. 12

## Pursuing Villa.

Both Mexican and American Soldiers Have Orders to Get Bandit Chief.

United States troops are now in Mexico pursuing Panchito Villa, the Mexican bandit chief who with a force of between 1,500 and 2,000 men crossed into Columbus, N. M., where he killed ten civilians and seven American soldiers, after setting fire to the town. Citizens attempting to escape from burning buildings were shot by snipers. With Villa's troops was Mrs. Maud Hawke Wright, who had been held captive by Villa and who for nine days had suffered terrible hardships on the march of the bandits to Columbus. The Mexicans had killed her husband and had also taken her baby. The latter has been recovered.

Immediately after the raid, Villa fled across the border and was followed by a small detachment of American troops under command of Major Frank Tompkins. With 59 officers and men Major Tompkins chased 900 Villa men for fifteen miles, killing 75 of them and suffering no casualties. He was finally compelled to return to the American side.

While General Fred Funston, known as "Fighting Fred," will be in full command of the expeditionary forces, the actual lead will be under Brigadier General J. J. Pershing. Both of these officers have seen service in Cuba and in the Philippines.

First Chief Carranza has given his consent to the pursuit of the bandits, and President Wilson has notified Carranza that Mexican troops may cross into American territory when necessary to chase outlaws. The order has been given to take Villa dead or alive, and the troops will make every effort to "get" him. Large rewards have been offered for his capture by both American and the Mexican governments.

The American force numbers about 12,000, all branches of the service being represented. Arrangements have been made to replace the troops on the border who have been dispatched to Mexico. People living on the boundary line are fearful of Mexican uprisings, as there are more Mexicans than Americans at several points.

Hundreds of Americans have already reached safety on the American side of the Rio Grande. The large smelting and mining companies have closed down and have advised their employees to seek refuge in the United States. Many Mexicans are also fleeing to the United States.

Although Carranza has consented to the entry of American troops into Mexico, President Wilson firmly giving assurance that the expedition is strictly for punitive purposes, it is feared disgruntled leaders opposing Carranza may attempt to unite the Mexicans to resist the Americans. The army of invasion will therefore see that no hostile forces are in its rear.

Carranza is said to have changed his cabinet so that he may be a candidate for election as president. It is known that many Mexicans oppose Carranza and they may incite opposition to the United States by claiming that Carranza has no right to allow American troops on Mexican soil. However, in times past, American troops have crossed into Mexico in pursuit of Indians, and Mexicans have also been allowed to cross into this country when chasing outlaws.

The greater part of the expeditionary forces is made up of cavalry well supplied with equipment necessary to campaigning in a rough and semi-desert country. Mountain guns and aeroplanes will be used by the Americans on the campaign, which it is feared may be a long and arduous one.

At San Antonio and El Paso, Texas, as well as at Columbus, N. M., and army stations in Arizona, there is great military activity and troop trains have moved rapidly, bringing large quantities of supplies of all kinds to military bases. The

soldiers are to be supplied with uniforms adapted to fighting in Mexico, and they will discard the heavy khaki clothing.

## Governor Stuart

Well Pleased With Work of Recent Legislature.

Richmond, Va., March 20.—Summing up the work of the recent session of the General Assembly, Governor Stuart expresses much satisfaction at the emphatic endorsement given to the segregation plan of taxation, at the laws passed looking to uniformity in administration of the assessment of property, and is particularly pleased because it was found possible to provide a greater increase for the public schools in one year than has been accorded in the past ten years all put together.

Large majorities were given to the bills intended to perfect segregation. The hands of the State Advisory Board on Taxation, now to be the State Tax Board, have been strengthened. A limit, both as to State and local taxes, was put on the assessment of intangible personal property not heretofore given in by the owners, so that the operation of this law will be uniform and fair. The tax on inheritances, the tax on manufacturers' capital, and on water, heat, light and power companies will give an equitable and needed revenue.

Schools benefit most of all, for the increases accorded them amount to \$652,000 in the first year of segregation, \$562,000 of which comes from intangible property which has never been heretofore taxed.

The rate at which the State goes back on omitted intangibles is less than the rate now resting on the same class of property for the present and future, and is a smaller burden on intangibles omitted during the past twelve years than that which has actually been paid on real estate assessed at one third of its value for the same period, considering that the tax on real estate was actually paid year by year, whereas the seventy cents on the \$100 paid by the intangible owner under the new arrangement may be paid now without the interest charge, which of necessity has been running against the citizen who has been paying his taxes as they accrued, even though paid on property greatly under assessed. It must also be remembered that real estate has paid regularly a State and local tax not only back to 1903, but for and indefinite period beyond that, and has asked for and received no relief as to any period.

Governor Stuart points out that the 70 cent rate compared with the rate paid on property owned by estates, is less than one third considering the interest on taxes already paid. "It is unbelievable," said the Governor, "that any man who has failed to pay the tax due the State and localities could complain of the just demand now made upon him at a rate which bears less harshly upon him than any rate paid by any taxpayer who met his obligations as they accrued."

## L. M. U. Defeats Ewing.

Hubert Potter and Lilburn Ewing went to Ewing Saturday to assist the Ewing baseball team against the Lincoln Memorial University team, of Cumberland Gap, Tenn., in which they were badly defeated by a score of 14 to 2. The defeat was mostly due to the good pitching of Bolden, who had a tryout with the league team at this place last summer, allowing the Ewing boys barely three hits, one of which was a three base hit by Potter. Besides his invincible work in the box he featured at the bat, getting three extra base clouts. A southpaw started in the box for the L. M. U. boys, but was hit rather freely and had to retire in favor of Bolden. Richmond was on the mound for Ewing and was hit hard throughout the game. However the diamond was in bad condition and the infielders were unable to give proper support.

## Democrats Expect Victory.

Party Leaders Gather for a Big Meeting at Bristol, Virginia.

Bristol, Va., March 18.—The Democratic executive committee of the Ninth Virginia congressional district met here today for a conference with Democratic county chairmen and others prominent in the party, looking to the inauguration of a winning campaign in the coming national election. Encouraged with the idea that the Wilson administration has been a success and that the president is likely to receive general endorsement and be triumphantly elected, the party workers took the view in today's conference that the situation gives promise of victory in this district. It was argued that with a strong, determined organization it would be more than possible to break Slomp's hold and elect a Democrat to congress. Enthusiastic speeches along this line were made by R. T. Irvine, John W. Chalkley and others. Resolutions were adopted paying high tribute to the Wilson administration and to the president's foreign policy and his policy in dealing with Mexico, and recommending a strong organization in the district.

Among those mentioned as available for nomination were: J. Norment Powell, and E. Lee Trinkle, of Wytheville; H. G. Peters, of Bristol; John W. Chalkley, of Big Stone Gap; W. D. Smith, of Gate City, and Charles W. Bondurant, of Lee county. Advocates of Mr. Bondurant insisted that he would make an ideal candidate from the standpoint of organization.

It was voted that a nomination for congress should not be made until after the national convention.

## Big Guns at Wise.

Congressman Slomp notified the authorities at this place several weeks ago that the brass cannon which had been promised this place were now available and to make arrangements for the proper shipment of the same. No time was lost in complying with this request and on last Friday the cannon, two of them, arrived at the depot here. They were immediately transferred to the court house, one on each side of the building, where they were left until the proper arrangements could be made to have them mounted. Much to the regret of those instrumental in having these old relics of bygone days sent to us, no carriages were at the present available. We understand, however, that the Board of Supervisors which met Tuesday took this matter properly in hand and an amount sufficient to pay for concrete bases was allowed and that the guns will soon be mounted.

These huge instruments of war are about eight feet in length and ten inches in circumference in the center. They weigh approximately fifteen hundred pounds each. Several cannon balls were sent along.—Wise Republican.

## Almanac Is Available.

Richmond, Va., March 16.—The Virginia Health Almanac for 1916, which is a digest of the State's literature on the prevention of disease, has been sent to all those whose names are on the mailing list of the State Board of Health and to all teachers in the public schools of the State. As some copies remain, those who desire the almanac can procure it by writing promptly to the State Board of Health. The almanac, as in the past contains the hours of sun rise and sun set and the usual astronomical information.

## Knoxville Business Men

To Bring Along Motion Picture Camera to Take Pictures of Special Here.

That Knoxville business men never let an opportunity pass to please their friends and customers, is shown by the recent announcement that they have, at great expense, engaged a well-known motion picture maker to accompany them on their First Trade Trip, to make pictures of the "special" from the time it leaves the depot at Knoxville until it returns.

Pictures will be made of the crowds that greet the Trade Trip Party at every stop of the train, and many pictures will be taken of the streets and business houses in cities visited. Many pictures will be made here, and the Knoxville party has expressed a wish that as many people as possible in the picture as possible, as the pictures will not only be shown in Knoxville, but will also be shown here and in all of the other towns visited, as well.

As the trade trip special will stop in all towns in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina, the pictures will prove a big advertisement for Big Stone Gap if a good showing is made. Every body should turn out and give the "special" a rousing welcome, and make the best possible showing for our town.

The picture, which will be between two and three thousand feet in length, will be shown here in a few weeks after the pictures are made. The exact date will be announced later.

## DEATH OF ARTHUR FOSTER.

Arthur Foster, widely known in this section and for nearly ten years a resident of Silver City, died at his suburban home, north of town, near the Cottage Sanatorium, at 1:20 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, after an illness of several weeks. Although Mr. Foster came here originally for his health, nine years ago, he was able to be up and around until several weeks ago when a complication of diseases set in and his case became hopeless at that time. For several days he lay in a semicomatose condition and during these trying hours of care and anguish, his devoted wife never left his bedside, waiting for one gleam of recognition before the end came. Her devoted and vigilance were rewarded, for a few minutes before his death he opened his eyes, recognized her and whispered a word of encouragement. With Mrs. Foster at the time of her husband's death was her mother, Mrs. Taggart.

Funeral services over the remains will be held from the family residence at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon, with interment in the Masonic cemetery, he being both a Mason and a member of the Shrine. John K. Taggart, a brother of Mrs. Foster, of Keokuk, Va., will arrive on today's train to attend the funeral.

Arthur Foster was born in Jacksonville, Fla., in 1873. He was educated at Andover and Harvard and shortly thereafter became superintendent of the Stonega Coke and Coal Company, a large industrial corporation, at Stonega, Va., where he met his wife, who was Miss Helen Taggart, daughter of a former superintendent of company. They were married in 1905. While occupying the responsible position of superintendent of the Stonega company his health failed and he sought the salubrious climate of Silver City in 1907. This has been his home ever since. A few years ago Mr. and Mrs. Foster completed a beautiful suburban residence near the Cottage Sanatorium, north of town. During his residence in Silver City Mr. Foster's health improved sufficient for him to make another attempt at the business game and he bought out the insurance agency of E.

A. Blevins, but was compelled to give up an active career, after a year in the business.

Besides his devoted wife and son, Arthur, Jr., Mr. Foster is survived by a brother, George R. Foster, a prominent business man and real estate owner of Jacksonville, Fla. The latter received the telegram announcing his brother's illness and death at the same time, and too late for him to make the long journey across the continent in time to attend the funeral.

While the state of Mr. Foster's health curbed his activities and precluded the making of a very wide circle of friends, the friends he did make, were exceedingly loyal, attracted by his many personal lovable qualities.

The entire community joins with these in extending to the young widow and small son the sincerest sympathy in their great loss.—Silver City, N. M., Enterprise.

## St. Patrick's Day Party.

Misses Mary Skeen and Nemo Vineyard were the joint hostesses at a St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday evening at the home of Judge and Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen, on Suwanee Avenue, complimentary to the trustees and faculty of the Big Stone Gap High School.

The green of Irish shamrock was the color note, of course, beautifully and effectively carried out in the perfect appointments of the party.

After the arrival of the guests, rock was played at eight tables. Tally cards representing green shamrocks were given the masculine contingent, and white ones to the ladies. The favors were tiny clay flower pots, each holding a shamrock plant for the ladies and even smaller green-wrapped packages to the men, which on opening revealed a complete smoking-set, a clay pipe, typically Irish, the tiniest of leather tobacco pouches and a box of matches.

Mrs. Sadie Lanham scored the highest number of points among the ladies and was awarded the first prize, two green crepe de chine handkerchiefs.

The men's prize for scoring the highest number of points in the game was awarded to Campbell Cochran. It was a green silk tie, and is sure to be very becoming to the wearer.

While lunch cloths were being spread on the card tables, preparatory to the serving of refreshments, Miss Nemo and Miss Mary delighted the assembled guests with their rendering of those dear Irish ballads, "Where the Shamrocks Grow", "Mother Machree", and "A Little Bit of Heaven". Delicious refreshments were then served, the color note of green being again evident in the lettuce and olive salad, wiches, cut in the shape of shamrocks, "perfection" salad, potato chips, pickles, stuffed dates, cheese sticks, almonds and coffee, followed by ice cream, cake and mints.

Those invited to the merry party were: Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Carter, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Gilmer, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Chalkley, Prof. and Mrs. A. J. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. Guy L. Pugh, of St. Paul; Misses Nell VanGorder, Clarabelle Lockett, Mary Lou White, Flora Bruce, Roberta Buck, Olga Horton, Marguerite Waller, Ruby Kemper, Janet Bailey, Reta Thompson, Winifred Mullins, Mrs. Sadie Lanham and Mrs. S. A. Bailey; Messrs. E. C. Akers, Ray Casper, Sam McCluen, Hatcher Willis, J. M. McLeMore, J. M. Johnson, W. J. Smith, George Rhoads, J. W. Rush, Campbell Cochran and Peter Wolfe.

## How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

## Appalachian Way.

Highway Will Extend From Canada to New Orleans.

Bristol, Va., March 16.—A. D. Williams, Chief Road Engineer of West Virginia, passed through Bristol yesterday. He wired Henry Roberts, vice-president at large of the Southern Appalachian Good Roads Association, to meet him for a conference about Appalachian Way, the promotion of which was begun by the Association at the Bluefield meeting last October.

Mr. Williams was enthusiastic about the progress of the construction of this great highway to extend from the Canadian border along the back bone of the Appalachian mountains to New Orleans, crossing the Great Appalachian Valley at Bristol, and following the crest of the Blue Ridge to Asheville.

Mr. Williams said that West Virginia would have \$10,000,000 for road construction this year, and of this a large amount has been voted by counties through which the Appalachian Way passes, viz: Summers \$230,000, Randolph \$220,000, Preston \$444,000, Upshur \$181,000, Raleigh \$835,000, and that Greenbrier and several other counties along the Appalachian Way would vote on bond issues this spring; and that on another suggested route for the Appalachian Way Marion county had voted \$300,000 road bonds, and Monongalia \$500,000. These figures bear out Mr. Williams' statement that 1916 would be a great road building year in West Virginia.

Mr. Williams seemed glad to hear that of the 92 miles of the Appalachian Way in Virginia, between Bluefield and Bristol, 62 miles were already macadamized, and that Russell county would finish macadamizing 6 miles additional by fall, and that bond elections were called in Tazewell county to complete the 7 miles in that county this year, leaving 5 miles in Russell and 13 miles in Washington county. Mr. Williams was also informed that Carter county, Tenn., had let the contract for the balance of the construction of the Tennessee section of the Way this year.

When informed of the recent suggestion of Mr. Roberts for a system of State highways in Virginia, including Stonewall Jackson Way to extend from Old Point to Lexington and thence through West Virginia to intersect Boone Way at Louisville, Mr. Williams at once suggested that West Virginia might go this one better, and build two Stonewall Jackson Ways across his State. His suggestion being that the Way divide at Staunton, Va., and one route go via Lexington and the other via Clarksburg, the birthplace of Stonewall Jackson.

## Wire Brought News of Mother's Death.

Johnson City, Tenn., March 16.—In returning from Appalachia, Va., where he filled a lecture appointment for the Methodist church there, the engagement being a notable one for the church there, the receipts being over \$300, Dr. J. M. Crowe was handed a telegram stating that his mother had died at Scottsville, Ky., on Tuesday night at 10 o'clock. She was seventy-nine years of age and possessed a beautiful Christian character. The funeral and burial took place today. It was impossible for Dr. Crowe to get to Scottsville in time for the obsequies so he did not attempt it.

We have been reliably informed that there are bright prospects for Pennington getting a large iron furnace. Men who have the money are talking the proposition and are asking what inducements can be offered. There is no doubt but what Pennington is a good location for an enterprise of this kind, and the citizens should leave nothing undone to aid in bringing this about.—Pennington Gap Sun.